Sub-standard pipes

3474. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 60% of the pipes on sale in the market for supplying drinking water in most of the households of the country, have been found to be sub-standard;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, according to a Delhi-based consumer organisation, there is a direct link between these sub-standard pipes and jaundice and other epidemies;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for sale of these pipes in the market; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure sale of goods and standard quality pipes in the market and discourage the use of sub-standard pipes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) While there are reports of sub-standard pipes being sold in the market, no data is available on the same.

(b) No information is available in this respect.

(c) and (d) The Mild Steel Tubes (excluding seamless tubes and tubes according to API specifications) (Quality Control) Order, 1978, issued by the Ministry of Industry under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, prohibits the manufacture, sale etc. of mild steel tubes of specified types unless the same conform to the relevant Indian Standards. The responsibility to enforce this Quality Control Order lies primarily on the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The States/UTs have been urged to ensure effective enforcement of Quality Control Orders.

The Bureau of Indian Standards is operating a Certification Marks Scheme under which licences are granted to manufacturers who produce mild steel tubes in accordance with relevant Indian Standards. Performance of the licensees and the quality of their products are monitored under this Scheme. All possible measures are taken to effectively enforce the Scheme.

Opening of new branches of super bazar co-operative strores, Delhi

3475. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open new branches of Super Bazar in different parts of the capital in the current financial year;

(b) if so, their number and location and the area which will be benefited by these branches;

(c) whether the management of Super Bazar have made necessary arrangements for acquiring land/building for the functioning of the proposed branches;

(d) if so, the details of the manpower required for functioning of these branches;

(e) whether any targets of sales, profits and revenue returns per day from the proposed branches have been worked out by the management; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Super Bazar has approached the Delhi Development Authority for allotment of shops in more than 50 cases in different localities such as Sukhdev Vihar, Rohini (different sectors), Vikas Puri, Dilshad Garden Paschim Vihar, AGCR Enclave, Sarita